Winnipeg metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016 | High -5°C/Low -7°C Partly Cloudy

THE NEW FACEBOOK

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metroNEWS

Relief for transit is on the way

Drivers wait for one of the many trains to pass at Waverley Street and Taylor Avenue, which is where the city has approved building a $155-million underpass. DAVID LIPNOWSKI/FOR METRO

INFRASTRUCTURE

Council approves Waverley underpass

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

City councillors officially gave the Waverley underpass project a green light on Wednesday. Or at least, funding the city's share of the $155-million project got a green light. Some councillors were at more of an amber light on the project in general.

Coun. Ross Eadie supported it, but speculated he'll "probably live to regret it." Coun. Cindy Gilroy supported it despite not really being a "fan" of it.

Earlier this year, the announcement of a provincial rail relocation task force made some councillors suggest that task should take precedence.

Other councillors still feel the second phase of the city's transit plan, widening Kenaston Boulevard, should be the priority.

And almost all commented that there were communication breakdowns, with new metrics for prioritizing capital projects used to slot the Waverley underpass ahead of others in March 2015.

Coun. Devi Sharma was especially concerned about the "process and lack of information," and she's still unclear on the "cost-benefit analysis."

Mayor Brian Bowman said it was based on a "comprehensive point system that looks beyond dollar figures alone."

The average commuter waits between 15 to 20 minutes daily to cross the intersection during rush hour.
About 30,000 vehicles and between 35 and 40 trains cross through the intersection daily.

metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Ban on growing medical marijuana struck down; pharmacies jump at chance to dispense legal pot. **Canada**

ELECTION LEAD-UP

City reviews its ward boundaries

The 15 wards of Winnipeg will officially be reviewed after city council voted to establish a new "ward boundaries commission" to carry out the task.

Councillors said they want the boundaries of the city's ward system to more closely delineate actual populations within each.

Coun. Brian Mayes said looking at the boundaries before the next civic election in 2018 is "a responsible bit of governance."

"It's of particular importance in certain wards," he said.

For instance, Janice Lukes said her ward, St. Norbert, had around 64,000 people at last count in 2011 — enough to double the population of other councillor's wards.

"We're all allocated a certain amount of money (to engage) with constituents," Lukes said. "When you've got twice as much … it really presents a challenge."

Ward lines could be redrawn. COURTESY CITY OF WINNIPEG

Coun. Russ Wyatt said the risk in looking at wards, which is mandated in the city's charter to happen every decade, is that it can lead to an "unbalanced council."

The plan is to use May's federal census data to determine how ward lines can be redrawn.

Wyatt is concerned "lopsided growth" in the city, centred in the south end, "begs the question: Should we still have a ward system?" BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

IN BRIEF

Assiniboia Downs urban reserve plan approved

A master plan for Assiniboia Downs approved Wednesday paves the way for a proposed urban reserve in the City of Winnipeg.

The master plan is one of the first steps that would allow Peguis First Nation to develop the Downs, and provides a "road map" for transforming the area via subdivision of land for legal ownership to the group.

BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

City moves ahead with traffic signal improvements

Winnipeg council approved the staff needed for its new traffic management centre.

Slated to open by year's end, the centre required the approval of eight full-time equivalent traffic signal servicers. It's not "net-new" employees, says Coun. Janice Lukes, as the current 7.59 full-time-budgeted seasonal temporary traffic signal servicers are moving to full-time positions.

BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

Green bin debate pushed to March

WASTE COLLECTION

Opposition to a curbside organics plan is growing: Eadie

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

A planned debate on organic waste collection was kicked to the curb at Wednesday's city council meeting.

Councillors voted to postpone their decision on the food waste strategy until next month, when Coun. Ross Eadie believes he'll have the votes to delay the program even further.

"We're going to have a really good debate at the March council meeting, and I think it'll be great," he said, telling media he has "nine (votes)" on the 16-member council, "but there could be more."

"Normally with a motion like this one … there will be a move to tank it," he said. "There was no move to tank it because the reality is, it will pass…. We have the support."

His opinion is that the city needs to do a "review and an in-depth study" on its existing garbage and recycling program "before we go ahead with anything additional added onto (it)."

Randy Park, the city's supervisor of waste diversion, shows off **an example green bin and household compost container** that would be used if Winnipeg implemented an organics pickup program. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

He said it's "awful," and that it's "still not working properly."

"Every individual councillor believes we should be getting as much organic waste out of the landfills as we can…. Many councillors have different issues around what was being proposed," Eadie said.

Coun. Brian Mayes echoed that sentiment, saying that he "(stands) with the mayor" that an organics program is needed, but that the options administration proposed were "too narrow."

In the public consultation planned, residents would have been presented with three pick-up options and three fee structures.

Basically, the contracted company could pick up fruit and vegetable waste only, all food waste including meat and dairy, or all organic refuse including animal waste.

The costs would be $55-$65, $60-$70 or upwards of $100 for each program, respectively.

"Many councillors have different issues around what was being proposed, (and) people don't know what the public consultation is," Eadie said. "(It) wasn't about, 'How should we do the organic waste'; it was, 'Which components of organic waste do we want to (collect)."

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Shooting threat traced to Manitoba boy

PUBLIC SAFETY

RCMP arrests online gamer, 12, with help of U.S. police

A 12-year-old boy in Manitoba has been arrested for threatening to carry out a school shooting during an online video game.

Manitoba RCMP issued a release Wednesday, saying officers were first notified of a potential threat from the Onalaska (Wisconsin) Police Department, as well as the Oswego (N.Y.) Police Department, last Friday around 11 a.m.

RCMP allege the threat was made by a player of an online game.

"The player stated he was going to start a school shooting within hours, but did not mention the school," Wednesday's release reads.

Police say other players in the game immediately reported the threat to their local police departments, which is why U.S. law enforcement was involved with the investigation.

American police officers, with members of the RCMP, worked with the manufacturer of the video game console to pinpoint the address of the player who made the threats, the release says.

That investigation led them to a 12-year-old from a small town in southeastern Manitoba.

Police said all schools in the vicinity were notified of the incident, and the boy was arrested at his residence without incident for uttering threats.

According to police, the boy did not have access to firearms.

"The public expects us to assume the threats are real and our officers responded accordingly until we were in a position to confirm otherwise," Sgt. Bert Paquet of the Manitoba RCMP, said in Wednesday's release.

> **"The player stated he was going to start a school shooting."**
> RCMP release

"The quick thinking and prompt actions of officers from several different sections in two different countries were key to successfully locating and apprehending the youth associated to the threats."

Police said the boy was remanded into custody over the weekend, and will appear before court on March 1.

METRO

Guido Amsel HANDOUT/WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE

MAIL BOMB CASE

Amsel ruling to come on Thursday

The man accused of sending mail bombs to a workplace and two Winnipeg law offices last summer will find out if he can be tried by an out-of-province judge on Thursday.

Guido Amsel, 49, had his lawyer Martin Glazer, argue that a local judge could be biased.

Glazer said he's concerned local judges will have been emotionally impacted by the events because lawyers were involved.

Amsel is facing more than a dozen criminal charges including three counts of attempted murder. He has been in custody since July, not long after the incidents occurred.

Amsel was denied bail at a hearing in September.

It's alleged that Amsel was targeting his former wife and the lawyers who were involved in a lengthy legal dispute between the couple.

Three bombs were sent in July 2015; one to an auto repair shop where Amsel's ex-wife worked and to the lawyers who had represented Amsel and his wife in their divorce.

Two were safely disposed of but one exploded at the office of Petersen-King on River Avenue, severely injuring lawyer Maria Mitousis.

Mitousis lost her right hand and suffered injuries to her face and other parts of her body.

METRO STAFF WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ COINCIDENCE OR NOT?

Package not a bomb

Winnipeg police dispatched a bomb unit to a business on River Avenue Wednesday.

Media reports indicate that business, which police said was located in the 200 block of River Avenue, was the same law firm to which alleged mail bomber Guido Amsel sent an explosive package last summer.

Police said on Wednesday that a suspicious package had been reported, but was deemed as "non-explosive," by members of the bomb disposal unit.

The area was eventually reopened to traffic. METRO

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Construction is underway on the $400 million office and hotel plaza known as True North Square in Winnipeg. **Inset:** An artist's rendering of the building which Scotiabank, a major law firm and a Sutton Place Hotel will one day call home. MICHELLE BAILEY/FOR METRO; INSET: CONTRIBUTED

Downtown plaza plans revealed

DEVELOPMENT

True North Square to include four towers, hotel

Michelle Bailey
For Metro

More details about the $400 million True North Square mega plaza have been revealed, including how many buildings it includes, and the identities of its anchor tenants.

It's comprised of four towers, and officials with True North Sports & Entertainment announced on Wednesday that the development will include more than one million square feet of space — office, hotel, residential, retail and parking.

The goal is to complete the 365,000 square foot, 17-storey officer tower at 242 Hargrave Street by the summer of 2018, with anchor tenants Scotiabank and law firm Thompson Dorfman Sweatman (TDS) calling it home.

Scotiabank officials said Wednesday the existing branch at Portage and Main would remain unchanged.

"A private downtown development like this happens once in a generation," said Keith LaBossiere, partner and project lead at TDS.

The second 24-storey tower, expected to be complete by 2019, will feature 200,000 square feet of retail space, offices, top floor residences and a Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries flagship liquor mart, which will take up 50,000 square feet of space.

The two remaining towers will rise from the site of the former Carlton Inn.

It will include a 27-storey, 275-room hotel and a 17-storey, 130-unit residential tower that will be owned, developed and managed by Vancouver-based Sutton Place Hotels.

True North Sports & Entertainment CEO Mark Chipman said that when they built MTS Centre, they had hoped it would be the first step to greater things for the city's centre.

"We never promised it would be the panacea for everything that our downtown needed, but that it would be a catalyst," said Chipman.

"I think it's been that, and hopefully the community will see this as being evidence as a move in the right direction. I honestly believe the renaissance of our downtown in now underway."

In addition to detailing the plans of the development, True North officials announced that James Richardson & Sons Limited will be 50/50 partners.

"The development of the Richardson Building had a very positive impact on Winnipeg, and we are confident that True North Square will have a similar legacy in enhancing a city that we are all proud to call home," said Hartley Richardson, President and CEO of James Richardson & Sons Limited.

> **A private downtown development like this happens once in a generation.**
> Keith LaBossiere

PROVINCIAL AND CITY BACKING

Together, the province and city have pledged to spend $26.6 million towards building public amenities at the development.
Close to $17.6 million has already been earmarked under the existing sports hospitality and entertainment district agreement — an incentive that offers tax increment financing to developers looking to build in an 11-block area of the city's downtown.

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App encourages locals to buy local

TECHNOLOGY

8 businesses already signed up for rewards program

Bailey Hildebrand
For Metro | Winnipeg

Ian Scatliff, right, and Tyler Ibrahim, left, stand with Ana Damaskin. BAILEY HILDEBRAND/FOR METRO

A local company is hoping a new mobile rewards application will encourage people to keep their money in Winnipeg.

The Local Frequency launched last week, and stores are already signing up to bring in more customers. Employees at Protegra, a Winnipeg-based software company, developed the app.

"If you shop at any participating business and you have the app on your phone and you pay with debit or cash, you get a three per cent reward in the form of local points," said Tyler Ibrahim, one of The Local Frequency's team members.

"It's cash back, but local cash back. You can only spend it within the network."

Before development, the team talked to more than 100 businesses in Winnipeg to discuss struggles they had. Maintaining visibility was among top concerns.

"It's very expensive to get visible nowadays," Ibrahim explained.

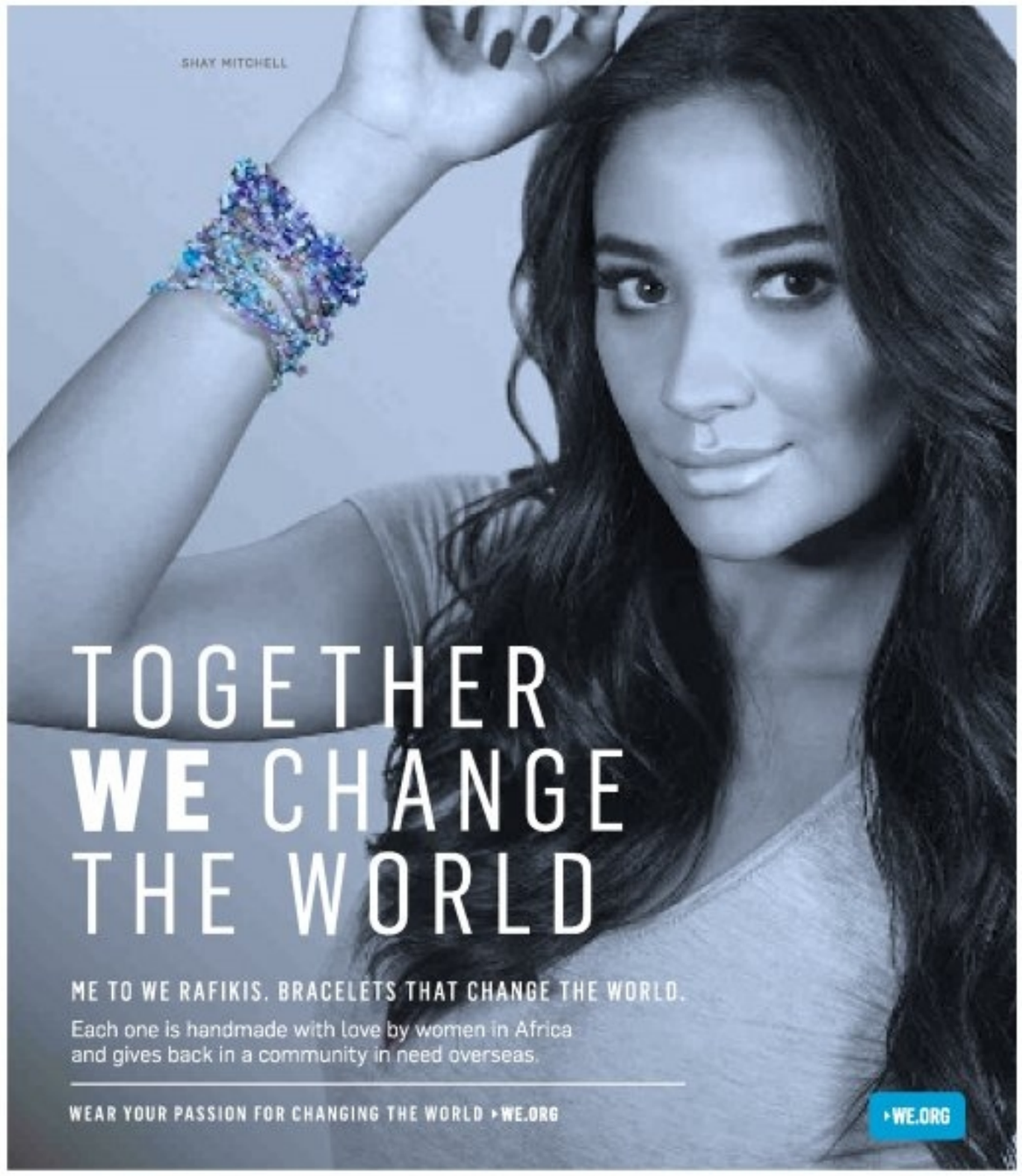
Ana Damaskin, co-owner of restaurant Nick's on Broadway, hopes The Local Frequency will bring more people to her sandwich shop, and nearby businesses.

"We try to use local suppliers and we felt like this was a great opportunity because not only are they going to be promoting us with the app, we can promote other businesses through us as well," Damaskin said.

Jonnies Sticky Buns also uses The Local Frequency. Owner Jonathan McPhail is one of the entrepreneurs who sat down with the developers in the planning stages and said he's seen some of his ideas in the final product.

"It has a lot of promise to be something that can be mutually beneficial, which is always a bit of an issue with stuff like this because sometimes developers will lean a little too heavily on either the customer or the business," McPhail said.

The Local Frequency app is available on iOS and Android devices.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NDP grilled on deficit reality

ECONOMY

Opposition slams premier for not tabling full budget

The Manitoba legislature resumed for a brief pre-election sitting Wednesday with the troubled NDP government facing accusations that it is hiding bad financial news.

Opposition Leader Brian Pallister demanded the government table a full budget, instead of a planned shorter fiscal update, prior to the April 19 election.

He accused Premier Greg Selinger of trying to hide details such as the extent of the deficit before voters go to the polls.

"I'd like the premier to explain to Manitobans why it is that he would hide the facts from Manitobans prior to this upcoming provincial election," Pallister said in question period.

"Other provinces are all putting budgets forward ... yet Manitobans are being kept in the dark by this premier."

Selinger said the fiscal update planned for March 8 will contain deficit projections for the immediate future as well as revenue estimates and broad spending plans for each department.

But the spending plans will be less detailed than in a full budget.

"All the background detail won't be prepared yet. (We) just simply haven't had time to do that, but we'll give a very robust fiscal update and outlook," he told reporters.

The reason, Selinger said, is that the federal government hasn't yet revealed its budget, which can have an impact on the province's revenues.

The NDP government has been lagging in opinion polls since it raised the provincial sales tax in 2013, contrary to an election promise.

It has also twice pushed back plans to balance the books, and raised taxes on fuel, tobacco, home insurance and other items.

Selinger has stressed that the tax increase and deficit spending were needed to help the economy.

He has stuck with that messaging despite the polls suggesting the New Democrats could be facing a huge electoral defeat. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> I'd like the premier to explain why it is that he would hide the facts from Manitobans.
> Opposition Leader Brian Pallister

Dog owners Bill and Joan Dentry from North Point Douglas review information about the potential downtown dog park. MICHELLE BAILEY/ FOR METRO

PUBLIC INPUT

Off-leash park in works

Michelle Bailey
For Metro | Winnipeg

It started with a 2014 campaign promise from Mayor Brain Bowman, who said Winnipeg's downtown needed an off-leash dog park.

The $300,000 price tag for the park was approved as part of the 2015 operating budget. Now, city administrators are looking for input from the public as to where it should be located.

"There are seven sites that have strong potential and belong to the city already," said Jason Bell, a superintendent with the public works department, said during an open house Wednesday.

"We need an area that is about the size of a hockey rink (85 ft. x 200 ft.) that provides shade and good drainage."

Results of a recent online survey, which received 1800 responses, were presented during Wednesday's open house.

Bill and Joan Dentry who live in North Point Douglas say they are thrilled there will be a place for them to take their pooch for an off-leash walk, but they are howling for more.

"The way this city is set up, you would think they had something against dogs," Bill said.

"We need more than just one dog park in the downtown area.

"I look at a city like Calgary and they have them everywhere, and not just in the suburbs."

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Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canada

Federal court gives green light

REGULATION

Ruling allows medical pot users to grow own cannabis

Neal Hall
For Metro

A Federal Court judge has struck down the new medical marijuana regulations put in place by the Conservative government in 2013, finding the new rules are unconstitutional.

But Judge Michael Phelan has decided to suspend striking the ruling for six months to allow the federal government to craft new regulations.

The landmark ruling means that the four B.C. plaintiffs in the case, heard in Vancouver last year, will be able to continue growing their own medical marijuana.

The new regulations were brought in by the Conservative government, forcing medical pot users to buy their marijuana from a commercial grower.

Neil Allard of Nanaimo, B.C. and three other users launched their constitutional challenge two years ago, arguing buying from commercial growers is more expensive and made them choose between their health or their liberty, as they faced possible jail time if they continued growing their own.

The court had previously granted an injunction against the new medical marijuana regulations, allowing the plaintiffs to continue growing their own until a final ruling in the case.

That injunction will remain in place for the next six months.

In the final ruling released today, the judge decided the plaintiffs were entitled to a declaration that their Section 7 Charter rights had been violated by the new regulations and was not justified.

The ruling comes after a new federal government was elected and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has promised to bring in legalization of marijuana, but has not yet drafted legislation.

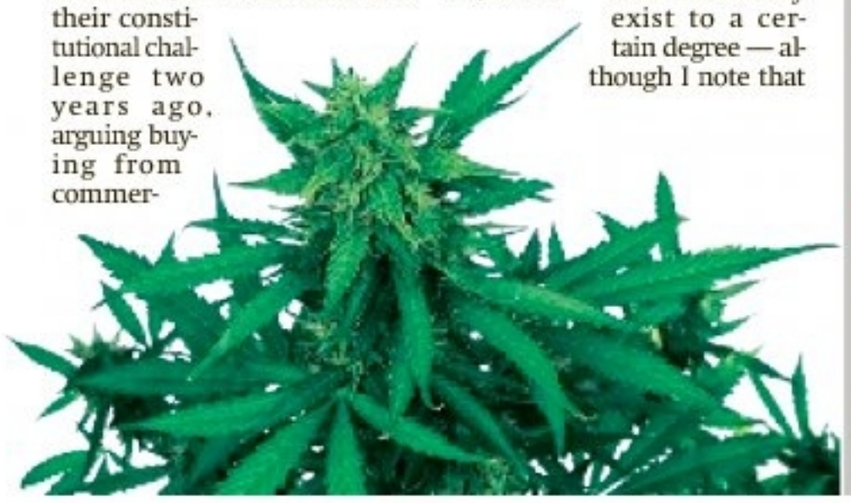
Today's court ruling will push the government to come up with a new law within six months.

Judge Phelan said in his ruling that he accepted the government's argument that the new regulations were brought in to reduce the risks of fire, mould, diversion, theft and violence "that inherently exist to a certain degree — although I note that these risks were not detailed."

> This significant restriction punishes those who are able to safely produce by abiding with local laws...
> Judge Michael Phelan

The judge added that "this significant restriction punishes those who are able to safely produce by abiding with local laws and taking simple precautions to reduce such risk."

In the meantime, dispensaries have begun sprouting up across Canada.



DISTRIBUTION

Experts weigh in on plans

- The Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada says pharmacies are best equipped to dispense medical marijuana, given their expertise in prescription drug management. The association's members include London Drugs, I.D.A. and Rexall. Shoppers Drug Mart also called pharmacies the safest bet.
- Canadian laws on pot must be upheld and enforced despite the government's plans to usher in legalization, former Toronto police chief and Liberal MP Bill Blair said Wednesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CARAMILK

Defence staffer clarifies candy

A Wikipedia page for the Cadbury Caramilk bar was anonymously edited by a computer with a Department of National Defence (DND) Internet Protocol address, according to the Twitter handle Government of Canada Edits. The edit corrected the erroneous information that the confection is a chocolate bar.

On the Cadbury Caramilk page, the word "chocolate bar" was changed to "candy bar" and "chocolate exterior" was clarified to reflect that it is merely "chocolate flavoured."

The account @gccaedits automatically tweets whenever somebody edits a Wikipedia page from a list of known Canadian government IP addresses.

"The Caramilk bar does not meet the legal definition of a chocolate bar ... due to the use of vegetable oils in production," wrote the DND editor in a note about the revision.

ISTOCK

"This probably extends to the U.S. as well, where it would have to be labelled as chocolatey or 'made with chocolate.' Edited the description to reflect 'candy bar,' instead of chocolate bar, rather than describe the difference."

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency, which oversees-food labelling rules, is very particular about what can and can't be called "chocolate."

Division 4 of the Food and Drug Regulations specifies that chocolate shall be made only with cocoa butter.

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REPUBLICAN RACE

Trump building up steam

Donald Trump's campaign for the Republican presidential nomination is building a momentum that may sweep away challenges by Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, with his crushing win in the Nevada caucuses marking a third straight victory in state contests.

Rubio captured second place with fewer than 2,000 more votes than Cruz as final vote totals were reported Wednesday morning.

Trump, the billionaire New York businessman, now can claim victories in the West, the South and Northeast — a testament to his broad appeal among voters frustrated with the political establishment. His rivals are running out of time to stop him.

On Wednesday, Trump won his first endorsements from sitting members of Congress, with Reps. Duncan Hunter of California and Chris Collins of New York announcing they are backing him for the Republican presidential nomination.

"We're winning, winning, winning the country," Trump declared Tuesday.

"Soon, the country is going to start winning, winning, winning."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donald Trump
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Austria, Balkan nations want stop to migrant flow

IMMIGRATION

Tensions rise as EU countries asked to share refugee burden

Overwhelmed by a wave of refugees and what they call indecision in the European Union, Austria and its southern neighbours along the Balkan migrant route agreed to tighter border controls at a meeting Wednesday - and warned that sooner or later they will have to shut their doors entirely.

Greece, the first point of landing for most of the migrants arriving by boat from Turkey, was not invited to the meeting and responded angrily by threatening to block decisions at a forthcoming EU migration summit if sharing of the refugee burden is not made obligatory for member states.

The EU has set up a scheme to share 160,000 migrants arriving in Greece and Italy. Even that would be only a fraction of the total numbers, but so far, barely 600 people have been relocated, and only some EU partners have offered places for them — fewer than 5,000 spots in all.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras said that from now on Greece "will not assent to agreements" unless all its partners in the EU are forced to participate proportionately in the relocation and resettlement of refugees. A senior government official, who spoke on customary condition of anonymity, clarified that Tsipras was specifically referring to a March 7 summit on immigration.

Tsipras lashed out at EU member states that "not only erect fences on their borders but at the same time do not accept to take in a single refugee."

Austria has recently capped the number of asylum-seekers it will accept daily at its borders to 80, and limited the number of refugees it will let pass through the country. That has led to more border restrictions being introduced further south, hurting countries along the route, including Greece.

Playing off warnings that the restrictions will lead to disastrous accumulations of refugees on borders along the route, Austrian Interior Minister Johanna Mikl-Leitner called for "a chain reaction of reason."

"We need measures that lead to a ... a domino effect. We must reduce the flow of migrants now," she said. "Because the refugee question can become a question of survival for the European Union." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Afghan woman holding her son reacts as they arrive with other refugees and migrants from the Turkish coast to Mytilene, Lesbos island, Greece. The International Organization for Migration said **more than 102,500 people had crossed into Greece since Jan. 1** and another 7,500 had streamed into Italy — numbers that weren't reached last year until June. MANU BRABO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CALAIS

Mass evictions ordered
The clock is ticking for hundreds of migrants in the city of Calais waiting for a judge to decide whether to postpone an eviction order. The court ruling on the question says that the decision could come on Thursday, two days after the deadline expired for the state-ordered mass evictions. Authorities say the order concerns 800 to 1,000 migrants.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GERMANY

Trio convicted of theft
Two men were convicted of theft and given suspended sentences in the first trials for New Year's Eve crimes in the German city of Cologne. A third suspect was convicted under juvenile law and put on probation.

The spate of thefts and assaults on women near Cologne's main station, blamed largely on foreigners, caused public uproar as Germany faces a huge influx of migrants.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. CONGRESS

Speaker takes steps to stop closure of Guantanamo

The leader of the House of Representatives, Speaker Paul Ryan, said Wednesday Republicans are taking legal steps to stop President Barack Obama from closing the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, a day after the president unveiled his plan to shutter the facility and move terror suspects to the United States.

Ryan told reporters that lawmakers have the votes to block Obama's plan in Congress and enough votes to override any veto. Separately, the Republican leader said his party is "preparing our legal challenge" to ensure the prison remains open and detainees aren't moved to the U.S.

Earlier this month, House Republicans awarded the Jones Day law firm with a $150,000 contract to perform the legal work in case Obama tries to move Guantanamo detainees to federal prisons.

"These detainees cannot come to American soil," Ryan said.

Obama has pushed to fulfil a 2008 campaign promise and close Guantanamo, arguing that the facility is a recruitment tool for terrorism worldwide and opposed by some allies. The president has faced strong opposition in Congress, where Republicans and some Democrats maintain there is no alternative and argue they don't want these terror suspects transferred to U.S. prisons, even maximum security facilities.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **These detainees cannot come to American soil.**
> Paul Ryan

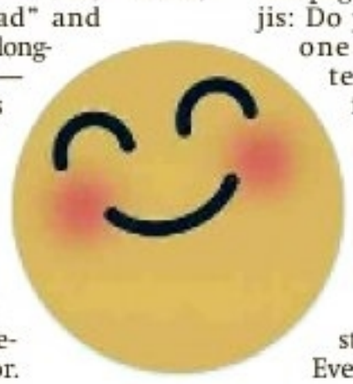
Dawn arrives at the now closed Camp X-Ray at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Express yourself

Facebook's emoji update covers your anger, love, and every emotion in between

It was bound to happen. The trusted "like" thumbs up is no longer cutting it. After testing five new reactions with Facebook users in Ireland, Spain, Chile, Portugal, the Philippines and Japan for, well, their reactions, Facebook is now rolling out the expanded emotions globally.

The social-media network chose to offer more nuanced reactions — "love," "haha," "wow," "sad" and "angry" — alongside "like" — to give users "greater control over their expressivity," says Julie Zhuo, Facebook's product design director.



Facebook went through comments on friends' posts, as well as emoji-like stickers people were using. It chose the most common ones and tested those. They considered dozens of reactions — but offering them all would have been confusing. Think of having to flip through pages and pages of emojis: Do you want one wink, a tear, a full frown or a half frown?

Facebook ultimately chose these six reactions for their universal appeal — something that could be understood around the world. Even a generic happy face "was a little bit ambiguous and harder for people to understand," Zhuo says.

Each reaction comes with an animated emoji, such as the thumbs up for "like" and a heart for "love." These emojis will look the same around the world, but phrases such as "love" will be translated.

Torstar News Service tested out a few run-of-the-mill Facebook posts and how reactions can evolve.

1 Sad

The situation: Your friend says his beloved cat has died.

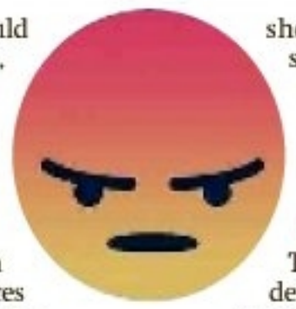
Old school: It would be strange to "like" that post. You want to offer your support, but a comment is the only means to do so. You should text him, too, by the way.

New school: Click the "sad" icon and add a comment with your condolences if you were particularly close with the departed. You should still text your friend, by the way.

2 Wow

The situation: Your sibling posts some adorable photo of your niece's birthday.

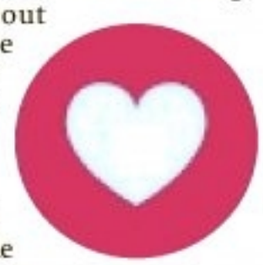
Old school: You "Like" the post, but deep inside you know it's an inadequate reflection of your joy. Man, she is so cute.



New school: Click the celebratory "wow" icon (as in, "Wow, she is so cute!") and take solace in knowing that Facebook really nailed it this time. The "Love" emoji would also be appropriate here.

3 Anger

The situation: A friend delivers an award-winning rant about a terrible public transit commute (I mean, two short turns while packed in like sardines is pretty bad).



Old school: Show your solidarity with a comment relaying that no one deserves that cruel start to the day.

New school: Use the "angry" emoji to succinctly convey all your rage with one squished-up red, angry face.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE AND THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

UPS invests in same-day delivery company

UPS, looking for ways to get goods to shoppers faster, is investing in delivery company Deliv.

Deliv, founded nearly four years ago, works with Macy's Inc., Kohl's Corp. and other retailers to deliver online orders within the same day. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing overtakes N.Y.C. as home to most billionaires

Move over, New York City: Beijing is the new "Billionaire Capital of the World." The Chinese capital has overtaken the Big Apple as home to the most billionaires — 100 to 95 — according to Heroine, a Shanghai firm.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Farming groups call for more seasonal workers

Agriculture groups want the federal government to allow more producers to hire foreign seasonal employees to work on farms.

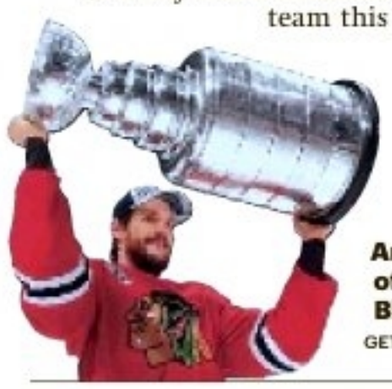
"There are some jobs that we can't get Canadians to do," said Norm Hall, president of the Agricultural Producers Association of Saskatchewan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL PLAYOFFS

Looming drought could be a hit to Rogers

For the first time in more than 40 years, the Stanley Cup playoffs may lack a Canadian team this season.



Antoine Vermette of the Chicago Blackhawks.
GETTY IMAGES

That's not only a major disappointment to Canada's devoted hockey fans — Rogers Media coffers could also suffer at the hands of the teams' lacklustre performances three years after the company made a big investment in Canadian hockey talent.

In 2013, Rogers Media purchased the exclusive national rights to broadcast all NHL games for a dozen years in Canada for $5.2 billion.

This playoff season, the odds of even one Canadian team making the playoffs are slim. None of the seven teams currently hold playoff spots in the standings and Winnipeg, Toronto and Edmonton are at the very bottom of the 30-team league. The season ends April 10.

"The bottom line is: no Canadian team in these playoffs is not at all good news for Rogers," Marvin Ryder, assistant professor at McMaster University's DeGroote School of Business, said in an interview.

Last year, when five Canadian teams competed in the first round of playoffs, the company's gamble on hockey paid off. Ratings jumped 36 per cent over the 2014 post-season's initial match-ups, when only Montreal advanced into the playoffs, according to Numeris.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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3	6	2	9	8	1	4	7	5
7	1	9	5	4	6	2	8	3
9	4	5	6	3	2	7	1	8
2	3	1	8	7	4	9	5	6
6	7	8	1	9	5	3	2	4
4	2	3	7	1	8	5	6	9
8	5	7	4	6	9	1	3	2
1	9	6	2	5	3	8	4	7

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Thursday, February 25, 2016

CHANTAL HÉBERT: ON THE QUEST FOR AN OPPOSITION LEADER

There are no fewer than eight and as many as a dozen Conservatives testing the federal leadership waters.... History suggests that the more crowded the field, the greater the odds that a dark horse will emerge as the unlikely winner.

Depending on the day of the week, there are no fewer than eight and as many as a dozen Conservatives testing the federal leadership waters.

Should they all enter the race to succeed Stephen Harper, this could make next year's Conservative leadership vote the most unpredictable federal contest in a decade.

Past history suggests that the more crowded the field, the greater the odds that a dark horse will emerge as the unlikely winner.

There were eight candidates on the ballot when Stéphane Dion won the Liberal leadership in 2006. Another four had withdrawn prior to the vote.

Over on the Conservative side, Joe Clark beat 10 rivals for the Tory leadership in 1976.

Neither contest featured a consensual front-runner. Nor, at this early stage, does the campaign to succeed Harper. In contrast with the last Liberal leadership campaign, there is no heir-apparent to the Conservative throne.

But there are crown princes in the wings.

Two of the leading candidates, whose names are circulating, have the potential — should they both run — to turn the campaign into a succession battle between the Tory and the Reform branches of the Conservative family.

The first is Peter MacKay, the former leader of the Progressive Conservative party. Based on a January poll, he is the popular choice of Conservative sympathizers, with support spread pretty evenly across the country.

But it is far from certain he wants the job, at least at this juncture. MacKay retired from politics to spend more time with his young family a few months before the election. He has just joined a Toronto law firm. He could decide to take a pass on this campaign, thinking there will be another opportunity to run later on.

It is a rare federal party that does not earn a second mandate in government. At a minimum, the Conservatives could be looking at almost a decade in opposition. Over a similar period of time, the Liberals disposed of two leaders before Justin Trudeau led them back to office.

Former defence minister Jason Kenney is also said to be mulling his options. His polling numbers are not as impressive as MacKay's, especially in Central Canada, but those results underestimate his actual strength among the Conservatives members who will vote in the leadership election.

As the top social conservative in the last cabinet, Kenney has strong connections to the religious right. And his ethnic outreach on behalf of the party has allowed him to build networks within many cultural communities. But while the Conservative party may be ready to elect a social conservative as its leader, the country may not be so disposed.

The second tier consists of a gaggle of former federal ministers, none of whom could be described as a national household name. Of course, that was also true of Harper when he became leader and he still beat Paul Martin, albeit only on his second attempt.

Doug Ford — of Toronto municipal fame — and businessman/TV personality Kevin O'Leary complete the list. Neither speaks French fluently nor has any federal experience. Both enjoy as much or more name recognition than most outgoing Harper ministers.

But if that were a major asset, former hockey star Ken Dryden would not have finished a distant runner-up in the 2006 Liberal leadership campaign. He used to top the notoriety charts.

Most of the would-be leadership candidates will be working the corridors of this weekend's Manning Centre Conference in Ottawa, making it a warm-up session for a marathon race that will stretch well into the first half of next year.

Former ministers Tony Clement and Maxime Bernier, MP Michael Chong and O'Leary will all be hosting so-called meet-and-greet sessions. Kenney, Lisa Raitt and Kelly Leitch are among the former cabinet members expected at the conference. So are ex-MPs Brian Jean and Patrick Brown, who lead the official opposition in Edmonton and at Queen's Park, respectively. By any other name, this could be a class reunion for Harper alumni.

The state of Canada's conservative movement is the overriding theme of the conference. The fact that this year's gathering of the clans that make up the Canadian right is bringing together a record number of people who toil in provincial and federal opposition tells that story.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

THE MICROTREND: Cereal's serious decline

You would think millennials would have a bit of nostalgia for the cereals they slurped while watching Saturday morning cartoons, but they're ditching this beloved "part of a complete breakfast." Grains and milk have gotten a bad rap with some, but cereal's slide is society-wide: U.S. sales have fallen 30 per cent in the past 15 years. Instead, protein is popular: Think breakfast sandwiches and Greek yogurt. While half of Baby Boomers told research firm Mintel they were still regularly waking up to their favourite cereals from childhood, millennials tend to eat cereal as a snack, if at all. Many are skipping the most important meal of the day entirely. But those who do nosh in the morning complain cereal is not good on the go, and — as 40 per cent of Gen Y respondents complained — it requires a bowl you have to wash. SOURCE: THE WASHINGTON POST

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Science says what all pet people know: Animals have empathy

Growing up, our first dog, Murphy (a.k.a. Murphy Brown) had her own seat on the couch.

Most friends didn't mind if, while they were sitting in the far left corner watching Saved by the Bell and shovelling down Kraft Dinner, Murphy happened to plod along to the edge of the cushion and look up expectantly, like "Time to hit the road."

"Oh, that's Murphy's seat!" I'd say, and motion for them to relocate to the wooden rocking chair (don't scoff — it had cushions).

A few friends did mind, but I chocked it up to their ignorance. They didn't understand that Murphy was like us humans.

For decades, maybe forever, we pet owners have — irrespective of science — believed in the human qualities of our pets.

Their ability to feel joy and pain, to relate to our emotions, to comfort us by licking our tears, to love us and feel guilty for eating the garbage.

These days, we should be feeling pretty vindicated.

In two recent compendiums of the latest research, New York magazine suggested "Maybe it's time to take animal feeling seriously," while The Atlantic extolled the empathy displayed by "consoling voles."

"It seems illogical for us to think that animals might not be having a conscious mental experience of play, sleep, fear or love," scientist Carl Safina said in an interview last summer after the publication of his book Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel sparked debate. "It is incredible to me there is still a debate over whether animals are conscious and even a debate over whether human beings can know animals are conscious."

No, the scientific community isn't wandering around with purse pooches, telling their friends that fluffy-but-frightening Gigi has the best taste in shoes. But neither is there a blanket scientific aversion to acknowledging the human-like traits of non-humans.

Take the case of voles, mouse-like creatures who, during a recent study, sought to comfort their loved ones when they got electric shocks. It's worth looking up just for the photo of one vole putting its little paw on the back of this other, curled-up vole, who's looking rather downcast. "All will be well," the first vole is saying.

This, coming from a lowly vole, who can't even claim the human-likeness of a gorilla, the social complexity of an elephant, the intelligence of a dolphin or even of a crow.

Yet here they are, according to science: just little brown puffs of love. Or empathy, or something at least that looks like human empathy.

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Your essential daily news

Adele triumphs at the Brit Awards, winning four trophies

Walk a mile in Roldan's boots

FASHION

International model talks diversity, pay gap and regrets

Nichole Jankowski
Metro | Canada

The fashion industry is famous for being fickle, lambasted for its impossible standards of beauty, and oft criticized for its lack of diversity. And so it's notable that Paolo Roldan — born in Quezon City, Philippines, who moved to Canada as a kid, and worked building circuit boards with his brother at a factory in Mississauga when he was young — was discovered not once, but three times.

The first time was in 2005 by renown modelling agent Elmer Olsen. "I was on my way into Hazelton Lanes on a Sunday," recalls Olsen in conversation with Metro. Roldan was working at popular Toronto boutique TNT at the time. "I walked in and saw him and went 'wow.'"

Olsen was quick to sign the 6'2" former basketball player.

"I never really took it seriously," admits Roldan, who was focused on his job. He remembers Olsen calling him for castings. "Sometimes I wouldn't even go."

In 2009, Roldan was in New York on a buying trip for the menswear boutique Nomad when David Bosman, founder of Boss Models, spotted him.

The third time came on the last day of his Fall Winter 2010 go-sees: Riccardo Tisci, creative director of Givenchy, personally cast him to walk exclusively for the house that season.

Sitting in a café on Toronto's Ossington strip, just a week after closing Todd Snyder's FW16 show, Roldan, 38, is recalling those early days. Asked if he's had any regrets, one came to mind.

"I don't want to say I wish I never did it," says the soft-spoken Roldan, referring to a nude shot by Mert Alas and Marcus Piggott that ran in French Vogue and cemented his status in the rapidly expanding men's fashion industry.

> **People love it because I represent them.**
> @juanpaoloroldan

With each passing season it seems another men's week is added to the calendar: Florence, Paris, London and New York — even Toronto has TOM, running this week through March 1.

The hectic show schedule keeps Roldan busy, but during his downtime he's been working on his own designs. Roldan hints at a capsule collection.

"I can't say now because I don't like jinxing myself," says the business-minded Roldan, who sees the industry perhaps all the more clearly because he understands the dollars and cents of it. This clarity extends to the ramped up show schedule (globally, sales of menswear have had double-digit growth for more than five years), diversity on the runway, and a pay gap that sees even mid-level female models earning an average of 148 per cent more than men.

"There's more buying power on the women's side," says Roldan, matter-of-factly. "I tell this to all the young guys — it's because the women buy more."

And when it comes to diversity, he views the industry's moves towards inclusiveness as little more than designers trying to expand their consumer base.

"For the most part it's business, and it's cool because it puts me to work," says Roldan.

Despite all his international success, Roldan is happy to call Toronto home. "All my family is here," says Roldan without hesitation. As our interview wraps, he asks when the article will be published — so his mom can pick up a copy.

HOW TO WET SHINE BOOTS

Vogue.com recently named Roldan their latest street style obsession, noting that "his boots are a particular point of fixation" for fans. To keep his boots looking their best, Roldan uses a wet (or spit) shine technique, which he shares here with Metro readers.

Directions

1. Clean off dirt using a boot brush. Wipe boots down with damp rag. Dry.
2. Apply a base coat of polish with a boot brush. Using a polishing cloth and small circular motions, go over the entire boot, adding more polish. Continue rubbing in using the same circular motions until the polish begins to smooth.
3. Take a spray bottle and mist the boot with water. Continue applying polish using the same cloth and technique. The boot will begin to get shiny.
4. Spray with water and buff.

Paolo Roldan is ranked among the sexiest men on models.com. PAOLO AZARRAGA/CLIENT MAGAZINE

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JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Where the wild things are

THE SHOW: The Nature of Things, Wolverine: Ghost of the Northern Forest (CBC)
THE MOMENT: The Carcass

In the dead of winter in northern Alberta, nature photographer Andrew Manske has been living for 21 days straight in a tiny blind, peeing into bottles to hide his scent, hoping to capture images of wolverines in the wild.

PHOTO FIRSTS
Nature photographer Andrew Manske scores his greatest coup: the first images of a female wolverine with her kits

Aggressive, vicious, nocturnal, wolverines are so elusive that, when Manske finally gets a glimpse of them, he posits that his is the first footage of wild ones in North America.

He gets it by staking out the carcass of a deer killed by wolves.

Night after night, wolverines come out to snack, padding on paws as wide as snowshoes. Later, aided by a University of Alberta team who are tagging and tracking wolverines, Manske scores his greatest coup: the first images of a female wolverine with her kits.

Here's the thing about nature docs.

Not only do you learn the stuff they want you to learn — I now know that pound for pound, a wolverine's bite force is stronger than any other land mammal — your mind is always blown by something.

And you never know what that thing will be.

With this one, it began by witnessing how many animals can live off one carcass, and for how long.

Wolverines, wolves, ravens, and lynx all chow down, with a clear hierarchy as to who eats when.

That got me thinking about animals and winter in general.

Do they sigh when it snows? Do they long for spring? Do they even have thoughts? What is a thought, without words?

And, poof. Mind blown.

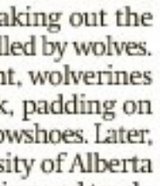
Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

You learn fascinating things from nature docs, like that pound for pound, a wolverine's bite force is stronger than any other land mammal. CONTRIBUTED

Queen of Metal tells all

MEMOIR

Lita Ford on clawing her way to the top of music world



Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Lita Ford was only 16 years old in 1975 when she auditioned for a new act called the Runaways, described by its notorious manager Kim Fowley as "an all-girl teenage band of rebellious jailbait 'rock-and-roll bitches.'" Shortly before the audition and meeting bandmate Joan Jett for the first time, Ford had been attacked by gang members in an Arby's parking lot following an exchange of words. She showed up to perform with a blood-red eye and bruised face, and although Ford normally wasn't one to throw punches, her tough, street-fighting reputation was born.

Since then, Ford has been known as a fighter, a label she dismisses as myth. Now, after 40 years in the music business as a pioneering female guitarist, she's decided to set the record straight with Living Like a Runaway: a Memoir, published by HarperCollins. The book is a candid, at times painfully honest tour through her personal life and musical career as the "Queen of Metal."

Ford did have to fight to be taken seriously as a musician, which is one reason why the former Grammy nominee always wanted to write a book. "I started in the music industry as a young girl, not a woman. I wasn't the lead singer, I was the lead guitarist," she says. "I wanted to talk about all the hurdles I had to jump through in a man's world, to try to claw and scrape my way to the top when I just kept getting pushed down."

She spent last summer writing furiously — "I don't even think I took my robe off," Ford says — but was having no luck finding a co-writer with whom she gelled. One she describes as a chauvinist; the other, clueless about music. Then she received fan-mail from Toronto music blogger Martina Fasano. "It was the most incredible fan letter I had ever read. It really touched my heart," says Ford. The letter led to a text, then a phone call, and finally a meeting. Ford asked Fasano to help her out with a paragraph she was struggling with, which eventually led to the two collaborating on the manuscript. "She was a godsend, that little Italian rocker," says Ford.

Although sex and drugs are requisite material for rock memoirs, it's rare for women musicians to reveal as much as the lads. Ford is open about her relationships with rockers like Jon Bon Jovi, Eddie Van Halen, and Mötley Crüe's Nikki Sixx, and the copious amounts of drugs on the scene. She writes about physical abuse she allegedly experienced from her ex-fiancé, Black Sabbath guitarist Tony Iommi, and the horrific conclusion to her second marriage, which ended with Ford becoming estranged from her two sons. Now that the book is out in the world, Ford has no regrets about being so open. "I didn't leave much out," she says. "I wanted people to know my life story, and the people who were in my life that I got to be with, and hang with musically, sexually, and just as friends. I had a lot to say."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

Lita Ford wants people to know her life story. GETTY IMAGES

metro HOME
Your essential daily news

Upside-down house is on display in Taiwan until July

ON THE MARKET

Designer's touch in Transcona

ASKING PRICE:
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CONTRIBUTED

Housing amenities

This 1958 bungalow has come blasting into 2016 with tasteful upgrades including new laminate throughout the main floor. In the kitchen, there are stainless-steel appliances, quartz countertops and a marble backsplash. A feature wall in the living room is faced in natural birch and includes a fireplace. The basement is finished too. In the backyard there's a fireplace, shed, deck and brick patio.

Location and transit

The unofficial entrance to Transcona is the corner of Regent Avenue West and Plessis Road, and this home is located less than two blocks east of that intersection. A quick walk to the corner puts transit riders where they need to be to get downtown, or anywhere else. Plessis Road runs north for quick access out of town if a drive in the country in beckoning.

In the neighbourhood

Less than a five-minute drive away is Kildonan Place shopping centre, Club Regent Casino, CanadInns, plus many restaurants and smaller shops. Plessis Road to the north includes the shops of Kildonan Green with groceries, banking and more restaurants. Historic downtown Transcona is directly east. Nearby is a hockey arena and pool, plus there are numerous playgrounds and several schools in the neighbourhood. SHEL ZOLKEWICH/FOR METRO

NOTE: ALL INFORMATION WAS ACCURATE AT TIME OF PRINTIING

NEED TO KNOW

Location: 618 Melrose Ave.
Style: Bungalow
Size: 891 square feet
Bedrooms: Two
Bathrooms: One
Status: For sale
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McCreedy Knox Team, Royal Lepage Prime, 204-989-7900
Info: mccreedyknox.ca

STOCKHOLM FURNITURE & LIGHT FAIR

Ung Svensk Form, and other highlights

As a region that's world-renowned for its design talent, Scandinavia recently celebrated the art of home interiors in Sweden's capital with the Stockholm Furniture & Light Fair. Here's a look at some of the highlights from this year's event.

Guests of honour

Every year the Stockholm Furniture & Light Fair picks a designer as its guest of honor. For this edition, the British design studio Barber & Osgerby was selected to showcase its work at the event, creating a lounge in the entrance hall to the Stockholmsmässan congress center where the fair is held.

Young, up-and-coming designers got a chance to show off their talent in a space called the Greenhouse, designed by the studio Form Us With Love. This area also hosted the Ung Svensk Form (Young Swedish Design) exhibition.

Another must-see at the 2016 event was the Aurora Exhibition — Nordic Architecture and Design showcase.

This theme was also picked up in the Stockholm Design Talks, with discussions and lectures from internationally renowned guests such as British designer Tom Dixon.

Blown glass and tartan

New products on show at the fair included a selection of blown-glass objects from Foscarini. These included the Caiigo ceiling light by Marco Zito, evoking the morning mist in Venice.

Tartan proved another source of inspiration, with a ceiling light named after the crisscross pattern designed by Ludovica and Roberto Palomba. Plus, as part of an ongoing collaboration with Diesel, Foscarini presented a new version of the Glass Drop ceiling light with a white diffuser.

Magis expanded its Officina collection with new chairs from the Bouroullec brothers, using the same wrought ironwork seen in other pieces in the range.

Danish design store By Lassen, Copenhagen presented a nickel version of the Kubus candleholder created in 1962 by Mogens Lassen, a key figure in Danish functionalism.

French designer Inga Sempé presented the w103f lamp designed for Wästberg, featuring modular elements for different configurations.

AFP

40,000

The Stockholm Furniture & Light Fair attracts 40,000 visitors and 6,000 foreign buyers, architects, designers and journalists from more than 60 countries.

As part of an ongoing collaboration with Diesel, Foscarini presented a new version of the Glass Drop ceiling light at this year's Stockholm Furniture & Light Fair. HANDOUT

Covetable condos among Parade of Homes

Winnipeg's upcoming home tour, the Spring Parade of Homes, isn't just for the single-family market. There are lots of opportunities for condo buyers too. StreetSide Developments has a beautiful selection of condos entered in the Parade running March 5 to 26.

The MIX Condominiums is well worth a visit to see the fast progress on the project's second and final phase of building, located in Winnipeg's trendy Bridgwater Forest neighbourhood.

With only a handful of remaining move-in-ready suites in the first phase, The MIX display suite at #103 10 Hill Grove Point is your chance to experience the included designer finishes — such as quartz countertops — alongside the incredible functionality of the completed homes. Buyers of phase two homes will be able to take possession as early as fall 2016.

The Indigo plan showcased in the display stretches a staggering 1,031 square feet of luxury living, making ingenious use of space with a large master and second bedroom separated by a walk-in closet and spacious bathroom. The robust open-concept living space is topped off with a private balcony and yard — a unique feature for a condominium home. The second phase offers certain Indigo plans in a variation called the Cobalt, with an extra half-bathroom added to the design for additional privacy.

More apartment-style homes in Bridgwater

StreetSide's Bridgwater Forest North Condominiums is answering the need for more apartment-style homes in the neighbourhood, and its explosive sales are a testament to that demand. More than 75 per cent of the project is now sold with only about 30 homes remaining. Homes in the popular final phase include high-quality vinyl plank flooring, quartz kitchen countertops, heated underground parking and a storage locker.

Curious homebuyers at the Parade will have the chance to browse the popular Pine plan in the Parade entry at #133 25 Bridgeland Drive North.

Townhome living in Sage Creek

The Bluestem Townhome Condominiums community offers an alternative to the apartment-style condo, with a three-storey home design, showcased in the display suite at #109 155 Des Hivernants Blvd.

CONTRIBUTED

Experience the Elmvale plan during the Parade, with its 1,349 square feet, including two bedrooms, two-and-a-half baths and multiple sundecks — all perfect for comfortable cohabitation.

Visit streetside.ca for hours and more information on these Parade of Homes entries.

THREE BEAUTIFUL CONDOMINIUM PROJECTS, **ONE PARADE.**

Parade of Homes

Spring Parade of Homes March 5–26

#109 – 155 Des Hivernants Blvd. (Sage Creek)
Bluestem Condominiums bluestemcondos.ca

#133 – 25 Bridgeland Drive North (Bridgwater Forest)
Bridgwater Forest North Condominiums bridgwatercondos.ca

#103 – 10 Hill Grove Point (Bridgwater Forest)
The Mix Condominiums themixcondos.ca

Think Condo. Think StreetSide.

STREETSIDE DEVELOPMENTS A QUALICO Company

CONTRIBUTED

A CLOSER LOOK AT SAGE CREEK

Explore the beautiful streetscapes, trails and shops of Sage Creek and you'll agree that the neighbourhood has come a long long way in seven short years. With great care and vision, Qualico Communities has brought unmistakable style and spirit to this growing community.

"The goal is to have a complete community… where residents have the ability to walk to the grocery store, shop and dine in the community or play in the park with their kids," explains landscape architect and Sage Creek resident Aaron Hirota. "It's a special community as you can do all kinds of different activities without having to get into your car and go somewhere."

The perfect mix of residential and commercial, Sage Creek offers a full range of amenities including grocery shopping, dining, banking and more.

The local Village Centre will see even more development in 2016, with the opening of a bar and grill, dance studio, fitness centre and medical practice. The playground in Ron Duhamel Park will begin construction this spring, and 2017 will see the opening of École Sage Creek School which will accommodate 600 K-8 students and offer 114 child care spaces.

While the new school is sure to draw families from neighbouring communities, Sage Creek has also become incredibly popular with young professionals and retirees. Part of the reason for this is the great diversity of housing options - you can choose from family homes, grand custom homes, condos and even Luxury Laned homes boasting a low maintenance design and a three car garage.

"As a resident, I like the fact that this is a development with such an assortment of housing types," Hirota explains. "There is a lot of detail going into the housing stock and the community as a whole is nice to look at. It's not a constant repetition of cookie cutter housing."

This attention to detail and dedication to diversity continues throughout the many paths and parks in Sage Creek. There are playgrounds for children of all ages, over 9 km of nature trails to explore, and over 27 acres of wetlands and 66 acres of native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs and trees serving as habitat and shelter for native birds and animals.

With such a multitude of shops, restaurants, trails and showhomes to explore, now's the perfect time to take a closer look at Sage Creek.

"If you haven't been through Sage Creek in a couple years, take a drive and you'll be shocked by the progress," explains Eric Vogan of Qualico Communities. "We're now at more than 1,200 homes, and it's only getting better from here!"

For a full listing of builders and showhomes, visit sagecreek.ca.

EXPLORE Sage Creek!

VISIT US NOW TO BUILD IN 2016!

From a growing Village Centre and scenic trails to the construction of a new school – Sage Creek is changing every day. Learn why over 1,200 families call it home – and are loving every minute of it!

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This brand new dual-track, early-learning to Grade 8 school is expected to open in early 2017!

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BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
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Noon – 5:00 pm

SAGE CREEK
sagecreek.ca

metro SPORTS

Denver coach Gary Kubiak says he's been in contact with Peyton Manning but isn't pressuring him for a decision about his future

Unloading Ladd the right course of action for Jets

VIEW FROM THE 300S

Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson

There was a weird vibe at MTS Centre on Tuesday night. The Winnipeg Jets came home in the midst of a three-game losing streak and near the bottom of the NHL standings, which certainly hasn't helped the atmosphere around the rink. But what made the evening truly strange was the likelihood that Jets fans were watching Andrew Ladd wear the C at home for the last time.

With hopes of playoff hockey in Winnipeg this season all but officially gone and Ladd still unsigned to a contract extension, it seems a foregone conclusion that he will be traded before Monday's NHL trade deadline. At this point it is a deal that Kevin Cheveldayoff has to make, but a very difficult one to pull the trigger on at the same time.

Ladd has meant so much to the Jets since the team moved here from Atlanta in 2011. As the captain of the team, he was the first player to really buy in to Winnipeg, signing a five-year, $22-million extension that summer. He also embraced the organization and community, immediately becoming the face of the franchise as the Thrashers became the Jets.

On the ice, along with his likely successor as captain Blake Wheeler, Ladd has been as valuable and reliable a player the Jets have had. In his first four seasons in Winnipeg, he led the team in scoring twice and has scored over 20 goals every year with the exception of an 18-goal, 46-point campaign in the lockout-shortened 48-game 2012-13 season.

4

Despite having only 34 points in 59 games this season, Ladd has scored four goals in the last three games.

As impressive as those numbers are, Ladd really showed what he was all about last season. Playing through a sports hernia for the final months of the season and unable to practise, he led the team in scoring and to its first playoff berth in Winnipeg. He has missed a grand total of five games in five seasons, the definition of durable.

It was widely reported that Ladd and his camp turned down a six-year, $36-million extension from the Jets in the summer, looking for a deal in the neighbourhood of $6.5 million per season. The gap never closed and here we are.

It's no secret Andrew Ladd could be traded by Monday. TREVOR HAGAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

With the salary cap looking to be flat this year and many teams near the cap, I'm not sure there will be that kind of money on the table for him come July 1 when free agency begins. Ladd has maintained all along how much he likes Winnipeg and the organization and wants to stay. But the Jets, like any NHL team, need to make responsible decisions when it comes to big-money, long-term contracts.

With apparently no deal to be done right now and the Jets going nowhere this season, it seems Ladd will be playing for a Cup contender elsewhere next week. If this is it, we should all be thankful for his contributions both on and off the ice over the last four and a half years.

Kevin Cheveldayoff needs to act in the best long-term interests of the organization which will likely mean a trade of the captain this week. I know I'm not alone in hoping that come July 1 the first phone call made by the Jets GM is to Andrew Ladd to see if something might be able to be worked out to bring him back to Winnipeg.

TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

Playoff picture still coming into focus at Scotties

Manitoba skip Kerri Einarson celebrates her team's 11-7 win over Alberta on Wednesday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The race for playoff berths at the Canadian women's curling championship remained wide open Wednesday even as the preliminary round's finish line appeared on the horizon.

Alberta's Chelsea Carey remained atop the standings at 7-2 despite an afternoon loss, but several teams in a pack behind the host province had yet to be eliminated from contention.

The top four teams at the conclusion of the round robin Friday morning advance to the Page playoff. Ties for fourth get solved by tiebreaker games.

CONTENDERS

Northern Ontario's Krista McCarville and defending champion Jones chased the leaders at 5-2 with both teams in action in the evening draw. Quebec's Marie-France Larouche and Manitoba's Kerri Einarson were at 4-3.

Both Jennifer Jones and Val Sweeting were at eight wins at the same point in last year's tournament in Moose Jaw, Sask. Eventual champion Rachel Homan had eight wins in the bank by Wednesday night in 2014 in Montreal.

Carey's team from Calgary opened the Scotties Tournament of Hearts at a torrid 6-0 pace before losing two of three. So Alberta still has work to do heading into its final two games Thursday against Nova Scotia and Ontario to secure a playoff berth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Rockies adjust to spring training without Reyes

The Colorado Rockies have had some of the uncertainty surrounding Jose Reyes' status resolved, at least for spring training.

The four-time all-star shortstop has been placed on paid leave under Major League Baseball's new domestic violence policy pending the outcome of criminal proceedings.

"It helps to have some direction," Rockies manager Walt Weiss said Wednesday, "but I don't think we're going to be surprised by anything throughout the process."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Habs apologize for racial slurs on their Twitter feed

The Montreal Canadiens have apologized after tweets containing racial slurs ended up on their Twitter feed Tuesday night.

To thank fans for reaching one million Twitter followers, the NHL team encouraged users to reply to a tweet with the hashtag #CanadiensMTL1M, and they would then receive a surprise. Some users responded with racial slurs, others vile comments.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Belfour auctions off Olympic gold medal

Ed Belfour's decision to trade his Olympic gold medal to go into the distilling business with his son has paid off.

The medal the Hockey Hall of Fame goalie won at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games was auctioned off for $34,777 US on Tuesday, according to the final bid listed by Classic Auctions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tiger 'progressing nicely' following back surgeries

Tiger Woods posted a video of him swinging a 9-iron in a golf simulator on Wednesday to shoot down rumours on social media that suggested his recovery from back surgeries had worsened to the point he could not even sit in a chair.

The 13-second video was posted on Twitter. "Progressing nicely," Woods wrote.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McGregor, Diaz get lippy ahead of bout

UFC 196

Promotion for hastily lined up fight turns into trash-talk war

Conor McGregor has turned fight promotion into an art during his ferocious rise to the top of the UFC. In Nate Diaz, McGregor has an opponent with an abrasive personality to match his own — and brawling tendencies to turn their UFC 196 showdown into something worth talking about.

When the UFC put two of its most prodigious trash-talkers on a podium Wednesday to discuss their hastily arranged bout, the resulting display of verbal fireworks didn't disappoint the hundreds of fans who waited in a line stretching around a gym in suburban Los Angeles.

"With his soft body and his lack of preparation, he will not be able to handle the ferocity," McGregor said. "By the end of the first (round), I feel he will be put away. There's a respect there between us, but it's business in there, and he will be KO'd inside the first round."

Conor McGregor, left, and Nate Diaz, right, after a news conference on Wednesday. KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY IMAGES

Even with less than two weeks to promote their March 5 bout in Las Vegas, McGregor's promotional sparring with Diaz might make the new main event bigger than McGregor's original matchup with lightweight champion Rafael Dos Anjos, who pulled out Tuesday with a foot injury.

"(Not getting to fight for) the belt stung for a little bit, the fact I wouldn't," McGregor said. "But really it doesn't matter what weight divisions or what belt is on the line, because I should create my own belt, because I am my own belt. It's the McGregor belt."

While Dos Anjos has few fans outside his native Brazil, Diaz is a popular veteran from a California fighting family. Diaz also embraces the antagonistic nature of promoting a fight with the boastful McGregor (192), who has joined Ronda Rousey as one of the UFC's biggest stars.

"I'm just going to kill or be killed," Diaz said. "That's what I'm coming with."

Even Diaz (18-10) seemed a bit overwhelmed by McGregor's verbal gymnastics in their first joint appearance, mostly keeping his comments short after infuriating the champ by repeatedly asserting McGregor is using steroids.

McGregor then asserted Diaz is an unskilled brawler and made fun of the bout's 170-pound weight limit requested by Diaz. McGregor won the 145-pound belt in December, and he has been training for a 155-pound fight with Dos Anjos.

"The only weight I care about is the weight of them checks, and my checks are always super heavyweight," McGregor said.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CITY TOO SLICK FOR KYIV
Manchester City's David Silva, right, scores his side's second goal during the Champions League round of 16 first leg at the Olympiyskiy stadium in Kiev, Ukraine, Wednesday. City went on to win 3-1. EFREM LUKATSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Blatter and Platini have bans reduced to six years

Sepp Blatter and Michel Platini have had their soccer bans reduced from eight to six years by the FIFA appeal committee.

They were suspended in December after FIFA president Blatter authorized a payment of 2 million Swiss francs (C$2.79 million) to UEFA president Platini in 2011. FIFA says "the Appeal Committee considered that Mr. Platini's and Mr. Blatter's activities and the services they had rendered to FIFA over the years should deserve appropriate recognition as a mitigating factor." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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OMG: PESTICIDE PANTY LINERS

Some 3,000 boxes of "organic" women's panty liners have been yanked from the shelves in France and Canada after they were found to contain tiny amounts of pesticide, Italian manufacturer Corman said.

Corman said it conducted its own analysis after a French consumer magazine reported the presence of glyphosate, the active ingredient of Roundup weedkiller made by agri-giant Monsanto, in the cotton-based product of the Organyc brand.

In a report published on Tuesday, the magazine 60 Millions de Consommateurs said its testers had detected glyphosate in five of 11 feminine hygiene products they analysed, including tampons as well as panty liners.

Corman said it ordered outside analyses that "confirmed residual traces of glyphosate" in its panty liners, adding that it was recalling 3,100 boxes from the lot in question as a "precaution."

Although the amounts were tiny — around 25 nanogrammes per gramme — "these traces should not be present in organic cotton," Corman said, adding that it would investigate its suppliers, mainly in the United States and India.

60 Millions de Consommateurs also said residual amounts of potentially toxic substances were found in Always sanitary pads and Tampax tampons made by Procter and Gamble. Johnson and Johnson's o.b. and Nett tampons were also faulted in the report. AFP

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IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Progress arrives through taking chances and rejecting traditional ways of doing things. The more others try to persuade that now is not the time to try something new, the more confident you should be.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Today you will demand to have your say. Others will be so shocked they might actually listen for a change. If not, don't be afraid to shout!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Be aware of others' doubts but don't let them influence you too much. Have confidence in yourself, with your ruler Mercury in one of the better areas of your chart you won't lack for self-belief.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
For the next 24 hours, others may not be telling you the truth. It does not matter how good a deal you're being offered, if there is the slightest doubt in your mind you must turn it down.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Don't be too hard on people whose beliefs are different from your own. They are as entitled to their way of thinking, so be tolerant. If that's not possible, just stay out of their way.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You may not take kindly to outsiders telling you how to do things but perhaps on this occasion you should listen. If they are all saying much the same thing it may be a sign that they are on to something. Think about it.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Mercury in Aquarius is still doing wonders for your confidence. Today, go out of your way to show the world what you can do. Don't let anyone tell you that you are aiming too high.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is an emotional time for you. Be careful not to let little, everyday things get you down. Strive to see the good in your life and in everyone you know. It's still there — it just takes a bit more effort to recognize.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Usually you like to hear both sides of every story but today you will come down strongly in favour of one particular viewpoint. Don't beat about the bush — say your piece.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You are under no obligation to be nice to someone but realize that they may be useful to you in the near future, so try to stay on good terms.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Anything is possible today but that's not an invitation to ignore common sense and take on a task that is clearly not worth the time and energy that will be required to make it work. Be selective in your enthusiasms.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't give away too much information. Play your cards close to your chest and keep those you work with guessing what your next move might be. The less they know the bigger your personal advantage will be.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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RECIPE Spinach and Sundried Tomato Pasta

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Don't be fooled by the simplicity of this pasta recipe, it delivers incredibly deep and complex flavours out of the tiny time it demands of you. Which may explain our addiction to it.

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Total time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 500 g penne pasta
- 4 cups baby spinach or arugula
- 1/4 cup sundried tomatoes, diced (not packed in oil)
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 large clove garlic
- 1 tsp umami paste
- 1/2 cup shaved Asiago cheese, plus 1 Tbsp
- 1 handful of basil leaves (about 20), thinly sliced

Directions

1. Prepare pasta according to package directions in well-salted water. During the last minute of cooking time, drop the spinach and sundried tomatoes into the water. Reserve 1 cup of cooking water then drain pasta.

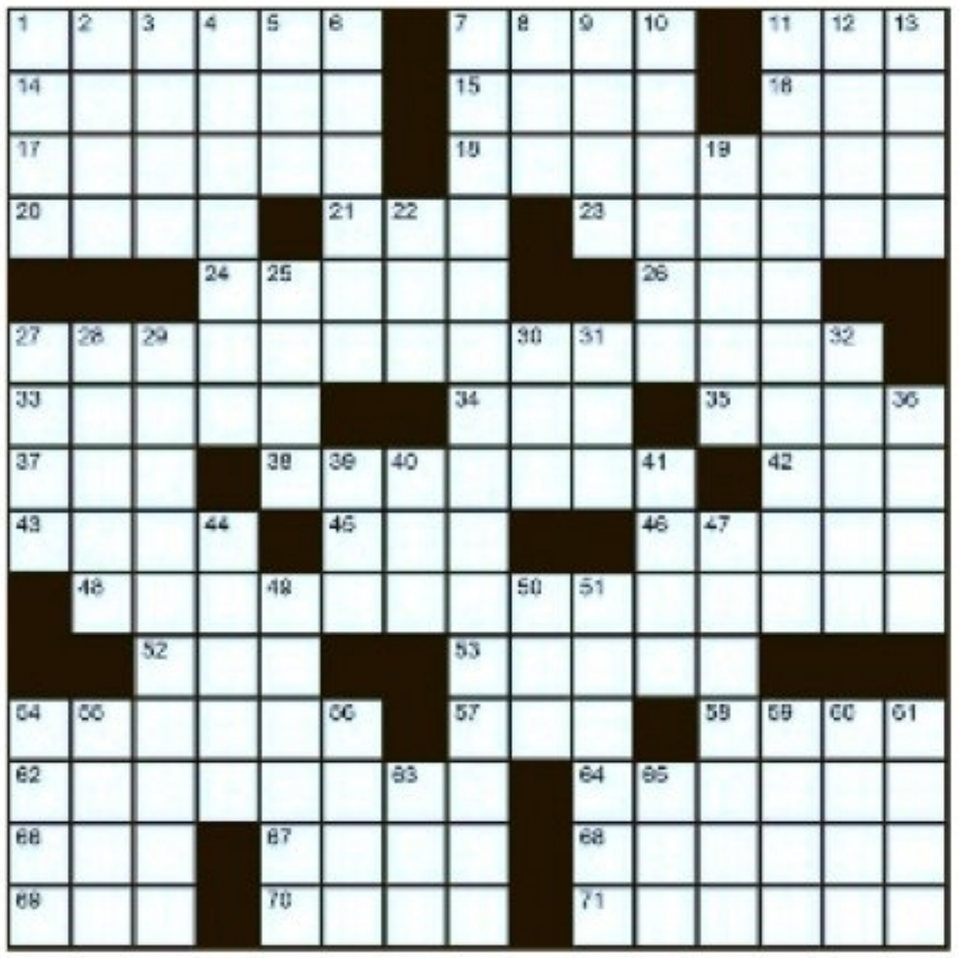
2. Pour drained pasta and vegetables back into pot and mix in olive oil. Using a microplane, grate garlic into the pasta, add in the umami paste, cheese, and stir. Loosen up your sauce by adding a tablespoon of reserved pasta water at a time until you reach desired consistency.

3. Serve with basil and Asiago sprinkled on top.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Apartment lease signer
7. Bewildered stare
11. Isthmus of __ (Malay Peninsula part)
14. "Fancy" rapper Iggy
15. "Is that station on FM ___?" ...wondered the radio listener
16. "Well, __ really."
17. Hat type
18. Bernie Taupin on an Elton John classic
20. Wrapped garment
21. Psychedelic drug
23. B.C.'s __ Valley
24. Smoulder
26. "Ugh!"
27. Creative trends for adults in the world of publishing now: 2 wds.
33. Contracted 'are not'
34. Cute laugh, when doubled
35. Bother/irritate ...in a typo
37. Idled
38. Canadian band with the 1982 hit "Your Daddy Don't Know"
42. Favourer's vote
43. Hgts.
45. "__ darn tootin'!"
46. Mil. rank: 2 wds.
48. It made headlines in the world of rock in 1970: 2 wds.
52. Time off letters
53. Set of values
54. Mr. Kutcher
57. "Wellll...?"
58. Phone nos.
62. Rather embarrassed
64. Cat who hosts #32-Down
66. Ms. Carrere
67. __-1, "Ghostbusters" (1984) vehicle
68. American inventor Thomas
69. Party-less politician, puny-ly
70. District
71. Lucifer's

DOWN
1. On-people pix
2. Canadian pundit Mr. Levant
3. Reshmi __, CBC journalist
4. Sackville, N.B.'s Mount __ University
5. Omaha's li'l state
6. "Tell It to My Heart" singer Ms. Dayne
7. Populated region around western Lake Ontario as it's known: 2 wds.
8. 'Legend' suffix
9. Golfer's norms
10. Mr. Estevez
11. Bookshelf trinket
12. Santa __, California
13. Office memo abbr.
19. Wintertime drink by the fire
22. Go downhill
25. Producer/songwriter Mr. Lange
27. House: Spanish
28. Teeth care brand
29. Company's stationery
30. Basic category [abbr.]
31. Wager
32. 'SY' of SYTYCD: 2 wds.
36. Kennel cry
39. Olive of cartoons
40. Celebrity chef Ms. Drummond
41. Margarine
44. Health: French
47. Try that food sample: 2 wds.
49. Saint-__ (South of France resort)
50. Randy Bachman's '70s gr.
51. __ Scholar
54. __ Spumante wine
55. Knee-to-ankle midpoint
56. Album of 1967: 'The Velvet Underground & __'
59. Queen in "Frozen" (2013)
60. Mr. Trotsky
61. Thesaurus entries, for short
63. RR depot
65. Writer Ms. LeShan

or a vehicle loan is easy. Can you afford
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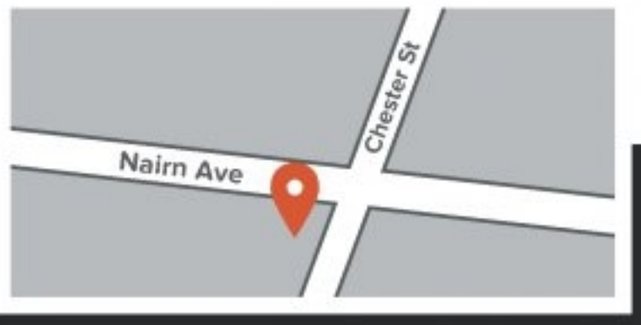
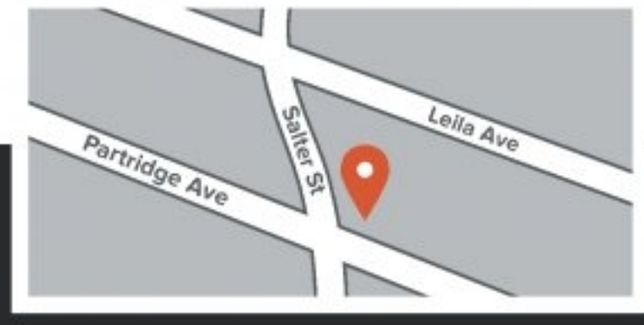


768 Nairn Avenue
Corner of Chester Street



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Medical Office Assistant
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Mobile Applications
Network Security Technician (New)
Oil & Gas Administrator
Project Management
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Veterinary Office Assistant